

Serial No.: 10/690,913
Amendment Dated: July 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 14, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently Amended) A device for pneumatic or hydraulic conveying of dusty, powdery or granular bulk material by a conveying medium in a conveyor line having an upper and a lower portion, the device comprising:
 - an inner pipe within the conveyor line having a longitudinal axis and extending eccentrically and axially parallel to the conveyor line in the upper portion of the conveyor line, said inner pipe having a circular cross section and lower openings at axially spaced intervals;
 - and
 - flow resistance disks disposed within the inner pipe, said flow resistance disks each having a circumference which is at least partially defined as elliptical, each flow resistance disk being disposed in the area of an opening and attached to the inner wall of the inner pipe, said flow resistance disks each having an upstream and a downstream surface such that an outlet opening for the inner pipe into the conveyor line and an inlet opening from the conveyor line into the inner pipe for conveying medium are defined, said flow resistance disks each ~~having an elliptical shape being in the area of their engagement with the inner wall or of the inner pipe by their~~

elliptical circumference, the upstream surface of the disks forming an angle (α) of $<90^\circ$ with respect to the longitudinal axis of the inner pipe and diverting the conveying medium to the outlet opening.

21. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the upstream surface of the disks extends down to the respective opening or beyond the opening into the conveyor line.

22. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the disks have at least one of a circular and slit-shaped aperture.

23. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 22, wherein the aperture is located on the longitudinal axis of the inner pipe.

24. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the upstream surface of the disks ends above the associated opening.

25. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 20, wherein the upstream surface of the disks ends at the longitudinal axis of the inner pipe or ~~somewhat~~ at a position below the axis.

26. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the outlet opening is at least one of smaller, equal to and larger than the inlet opening.

27. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the openings in the inner pipe are formed by an angular cut of the inner wall of the inner pipe.

28. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the cut extends upwardly at least one of above and below the longitudinal axis of the inner pipe.

29. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the legs of the angle of the cuts intersect in the region of the disks.

30. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the legs of the cuts intersect on the longitudinal axis of the inner pipe spaced from the downstream surface of the associated disk.

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein the upstream leg of the angles from an angle (β) $< 90^\circ$ with respect to the hypotenuse connecting to the other end of the legs.

32. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein the angle (β) of the cuts is smaller, equal or larger than the angle (δ), said angle being defined by the downstream leg of the cut angle and the hypotenuse connecting the remaining legs of the angle.

33. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the inner pipe is closely positioned to the inner wall of the conveyor line.

34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the inner pipe is based from the inner wall of the conveyor line.

35. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 20, wherein the disks are wholly elliptically shaped.

36. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the disks are formed by a segment of an ellipse.